said estimated total number of viewers based at least in part on said monitored number of viewers and said monitored aggregated consumption rates for said viewers.

5   106.   The method of claim 104, wherein said delivered information comprises continuous media data, and wherein said storage system includes two or more storage devices or two or more partitioned groups of storage devices for delivery of said continuous media data.

107.   The method of claim 106, wherein said information management system comprises a
10   content delivery system coupled to a network; and wherein said continuous media data is delivered from said content delivery system to said plurality of viewers across said network.

108.   The method of claim 107, wherein said content delivery system comprises an endpoint
15   content delivery system coupled to said network at an endpoint of said network.

109.   The method of claim 107, wherein said logical monitoring comprises:

monitoring a number of viewers being served by at least a portion of each of said at least
20   two storage devices or at least two partitioned groups of storage devices, and monitoring the aggregated data consumption rates for said number of viewers being served by said at least a portion of each of said at least two storage devices or at least two partitioned groups of storage devices;

25   monitoring a number of outstanding I/O requests for at least a portion of each of said at least two storage devices or at least two partitioned groups of storage devices;

determining an estimated total number of viewers for each of said at least two storage devices based at least in part on said number of viewers being served by at least a portion of each

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of said at least two storage devices or at least two partitioned groups of storage devices, and said monitored number of outstanding I/O requests for at least a portion of each of said at least two storage devices or at least two partitioned groups of storage devices; and

5   determining an estimated aggregated data consumption rate for each of said at least two storage devices or at least two partitioned groups of storage devices based at least in part on said estimated aggregated data consumption rate for said number of viewers being served by said at least a portion of each of said at least two storage devices or at least two partitioned groups of storage devices, and said monitored number of outstanding I/O requests for at least a portion of

10   each of said at least two storage devices or at least two partitioned groups of storage devices.

110.   The method of claim 109, further comprising:

15   determining an estimated workload distribution across said at least two storage devices or at least two partitioned groups of storage devices based at least in part on said monitored number of outstanding I/O requests for at least a portion of each of said at least two storage devices or at least two partitioned groups of storage devices;

20   wherein said estimated total number of viewers for each of said at least two storage devices or at least two partitioned groups of storage devices is determined based at least in part on said estimated total number of viewers being served by at least a portion of each of said at least two storage devices or at least two partitioned groups of storage devices, and said estimated workload distribution for each of said respective at

25   least two storage devices or at least two partitioned groups of storage devices; and

wherein said estimated aggregated data consumption rate for each of said at least two storage devices or at least two partitioned groups of storage devices is determined based at least in part on said estimated aggregated data consumption rate for each of said

30   at least two storage devices or at least two partitioned groups of storage devices, and

estimated workload distribution for each of said respective at least two storage devices or at least two partitioned groups of storage devices.

5   111.   The method of claim 107, wherein said logical monitoring comprises:

monitoring a number of viewers being served by each logical volume contained on said at least two storage devices or at least two partitioned groups of storage devices, monitoring the aggregated data consumption rates for said number of viewers being

10   served by each logical volume contained on said at least two storage devices or at least two partitioned groups of storage devices, and monitoring the number of plex for each said logical volume on said at least two storage devices or at least two partitioned groups of storage devices;

15   monitoring a number of outstanding I/O requests for each said plex;

determining an estimated total number of viewers for each said plex based at least in part on said monitored number of plex for each logical volume and said monitored number of viewers for each logical volume;

20   determining an estimated aggregated data consumption rate for each said plex based at least in part on said monitored number of plex for each logical volume and said monitored aggregated data consumption rates;

25   determining an estimated total number of viewers for each of said at least two storage devices or at least two partitioned groups of storage devices based at least in part on said estimated total number of viewers for each said plex and said monitored number of outstanding I/O requests for each said plex; and

30   determining an estimated aggregated data consumption rate for each of said at least two storage devices or at least two partitioned groups of storage devices based at

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